

Whole Grain-Rich Product Exemption for School Year 2016-2017

USDA memo SP-33-2016 allows State agencies to grant temporary exemptions from the regulatory whole grain-rich requirements for school year (SY) 2016-2017 to School Food Authorities (SFAs) that can demonstrate a hardship in procuring, preparing or serving compliant whole grain-rich products that are acceptable to students.

REMINDER: In the week(s) when a WGR-exempted item is offered, the SFA must ensure that at least half of the grain items offered that week are WGR.

SFA Name:		Agreement Number:	
City:			
Justification and/or Supporting Documents Required:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check all applicable reasons below for requesting an exemption.• Documentation must be submitted along with this form that demonstrates the hardship(s) in purchasing, preparing or serving whole grain-rich products. Acceptable documentation includes a written justification or other documented evidence [e.g. photos (plate waste, unacceptable product) or meal count or production records, etc.].			
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Hardship: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SFA records demonstrate a significant drop in meal counts after the whole grain-rich product(s) was offered.• The SFA experienced a significant cost increase when procuring the whole grain-rich product(s).			
<input type="checkbox"/> Limited Product Availability: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The SFA does not have access to a compliant whole grain-rich product(s) in the local market and would like to offer enriched grain item(s) temporarily.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable Product Quality: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The whole grain-rich product(s) offered by the SFA did not retain the desired texture or lost palatability during the typical holding time.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Poor Student Acceptability: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The whole grain-rich product(s) offered by the SFA received significant negative student/parent feedback or there was increased plate waste of that menu item when the whole grain-rich product(s) was offered multiple times and over a sustained period of time.			
List of Products:			
In the box below, list the whole grain-rich product(s) you would like to replace with enriched grain product(s) for SY 2016-17. This temporary exemption is allowed for any type of grain product and may include one or more products. Products may include brown rice, pasta such as noodles, macaroni, spaghetti, or bread items such as buns, dinner rolls, sandwich bread, pizza crust, cinnamon rolls, etc.			
Authorized Representative or Food Service Manager:			
If granted this exemption, you agree that at least half of the grain items offered weekly at meals will be whole grain-rich.			
_____		_____	
Printed Name		Signature	
_____		_____	
Email:		Phone:	
Return the completed form and supporting documentation by email to: leslie.brestel@nebraska.gov OR fax to 402-471-4407. Upon Nutrition Services approval, a copy of the waiver will be emailed to the person who signed this form.			
For NDE Use Only			
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved		<input type="checkbox"/> Denied	
Reviewed By:		Date:	
Comments:			

Nutrition Services - June 2016